

File

2 April 1981

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director of Central Intelligence
THROUGH : Deputy Director for National Foreign Assessment
SUBJECT : The Desperate State of NIC Manning

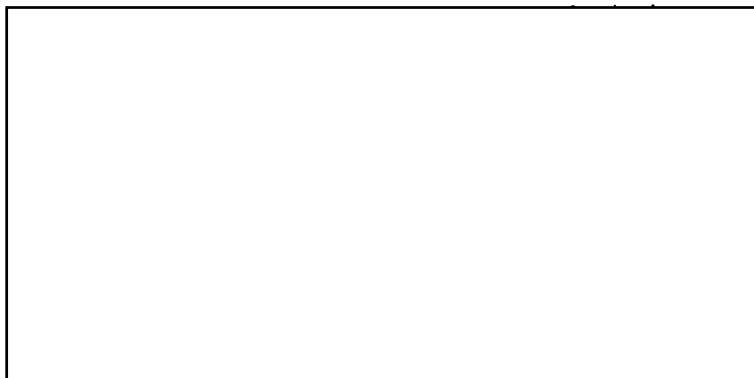


1. As you are aware, there are a number of vacancies among the NIOs. In my view the situation has become critical, not only for NIC activities, but also for the impact on NIC morale. As these vacancies remain unfilled, the impression grows, both in the NIC and in the Community with which it must work, that the organization's days are numbered. The problem is worsened by the prospective loss of a number of Assistant NIOs and staff as well. I urgently need authorization to fill the NIO jobs immediately.

2. The basic requirements for an NIO are:

- Broad knowledge of his field.
- Stature to operate at the Assistant Secretary level.
- Enough government experience to be able to work smoothly in the bureaucracy.

3. The situation is as follows:



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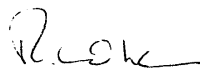
Obviously the suitability (and availability) of these officers needs to be explored, but among them one is probably available who fits our requirements. There is an added advantage in having State representation among the NIOs.

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If the DCI does not have his own candidate for USSR, we recommend he ask Secretary Haig for the assignment of a senior officer, mentioning our interest in discussing the job with the officers listed in Paragraph 3c. This will take some time.

6. John McMahon has seen and concurs.


Richard Lehman
Chairman
National Intelligence Council

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